countries, including in the G-20 alliance on agriculture, the G-33 alliance on Special Products, and the Africa Group, in order to ensure *inter alia*, that the elements and principles incorporated in the agreed frameworks serve to promote our competitiveness and to remove the distortions in global trade which disadvantage Indian interests. In the ensuing negotiations on the detailed modalities leading to the finalization of agreements on agriculture and goods, Government will continue to ensure that India's interests remain protected.

Flower exports to Asian markets

1938. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the potential of flower exports to the Asian markets; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to facilitate flower businessmen to export to the Asian markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps taken to facilitate flower businessmen to export to the Asian markets are as under:

(i) Cargo handling and cold storage facilities at airports in Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Thiruvananthapuram;

(ii) Agri Export Zones for flowers are being set up in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Sikkim, Uttaranchal and Maharashtra;

(iii) Wholesale-Market-cum-Flower Auction Centres are being set up at Bangalore, Mumbai and Noida for export of flowers; and

(iv) Financial assistance to the registered exporters through plan schemes for Market Development, Infrastructure Development, Quality Development, Research and Development: